1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF16 SW China AF16

altitudes, vegetation dwindles, and only cushion herbs survive at places sheltered from freezing winds.

III. IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION LINES AND CENTERS[12]

Szechwan Province is the western gate of the region, and the Yangtze River gorges guard the western entrance to Szechwan. Local transportation in Szechwan depended largely on the Yangtze River and its tributaries until the recent highway and railway development increased shipping facilities in the province. Szechwan's largest river ports are Chungking and Wanhsien. Located at the conflux of the Chia-ling and Yangtze rivers, Chungking controls the inland trade of the eastern half of the province. During World War II, Chungking served as a temporary national capital, expanding to accommodate government agencies and industrial plants relocated from East China. About 200 miles downriver from Chungking is Wanhsien, one of the treaty ports open to foreign trade in 1902. Through Wanhsien is exported the bulk of Szechwan's famous tung oil output. Another river port, Lu-chou, is approximately

12. Ch'en Yu-ch'in, Ch'uan-yu Man-chi [Random Notes on Travel in Szechwan], Nanking, Cheng-chung shu-chü, 1934, Ch'eng Kuang-yü, Chung-kuo Tu-shih [The Cities of China], Taipei, Chung-hua wen-hua ch'u-pan shih-yeh wei-yüan-hui, 1953.

504 150 miles upstream from Chungking. Two lesser tributaries empty into the Yangtze near Lu-chou and make the city a market for native products of southern Szechwan and northern Kweichow and Yunnan provinces. Further up-river from Lu-chou is I-pin, terminal of steamer shipping on the Yangtze. The proposed Szechwan-Yunnan Railway will pass through I-pin.

361 The Szechwan provincial capital is Chengtu, located on the westernmost of four major tributaries to the Yangtze River in the province. As an old cultural center of West China, this city is well known for its handicraft industries and is reputed to have an atmosphere like that of
499 Peking. The completion of the Chengtu-Chungking Railway -- an event overpublicized in the Communist press in 1952 -- brings Chengtu into closer contact with a number of important cities in central-south Szechwan, such as Nei-chiang, the only large center for the sugar industry in West China, and Lung-ch'ang. The proposed Szechwan-Yunnan Railway is to start from Nei-chiang, passing southwest through Tzu-kung
[317] Municipality. Salt extraction in the Tzu-kung area dates back to the tenth century. In 1953 there were 330 natural gas wells supplying 4,382 brine boilers in Tzu-kung. A railway linking Chengtu with Kansu Province in the north is under construction. This railway will pass Kuang-yüan, a strategic point on the northern
491 approach to Szechwan. The existing highway

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In Southwest China, Chungking is the most
504 important river port. It is at the junction of the Yangtze and Chia-ling Rivers and is a terminus of the Chengtu-Chungking Railway. Loading equipment was installed on the Chiu-lung-po wharf at the port of Chungking after the completion of the Chengtu-Chungking Railway in 1952. Its loading and unloading capacity in 1955 was approximately 120 tons an hour.[75]

IV. AIR TRANSPORTATION

509 When the Nationalists evacuated to Taiwan in 1949, the two aviation companies, the China National Aviation Corporation, and the Central Aviation Corporation left no airplanes on the Mainland. Most of the planes were flown to Hong Kong. But in November 1949, because of the sudden defection of Liu Ching-i and Ch'en Cho-lin, managers of the two companies, a dozen planes were flown back to the Mainland.[76] Approximately 4,000 company employees in Hong Kong supported Liu and Ch'en, but only a small number of them went back to Mainland China.[77]

75. China Daily News, New York, Nov. 4, 1955.

76. Far Eastern Economic Review, Hong Kong, Dec. 1, 1940, p. 673.

77. Ibid.